

## THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC.

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Circulation During December

W. B. Carr, Business Manager of The St. Louis

Republic, being duly sworn, says that the actual number

of full and complete copies of The Daily and Sunday

Republic printed during the month of December, 1904,

all in regular editions, was as per schedule below:

Date	Copies	Date	Copies
1	104,370	17	104,370
2	104,370	18 (Sunday)	104,370
3	104,370	19	104,370
4 (Sunday)	104,370	20	104,370
5	104,370	21	104,370
6	104,370	22	104,370
7	104,370	23	104,370
8	104,370	24	104,370
9	104,370	25 (Sunday)	104,370
10	104,370	26	104,370
11 (Sunday)	104,370	27	104,370
12	104,370	28	104,370
13	104,370	29	104,370
14	104,370	30	104,370
15	104,370	31	104,370
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26	104,370		
27	104,370		
28	104,370		
29	104,370		
30	104,370		
31	104,370		

Total for the month, 3,200,000

Less all copies spoiled in printing, left over

or filed, 100,000

Net number distributed, 3,100,000

Average daily distribution, 103,226

And said W. B. Carr further says that the number

of copies returned and reported unsold during the

month of December was 12.74 per cent.

W. B. CARR.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this thirty-first

day of December, 1904.

My term expires April 25, 1905.

J. F. FAIRBANKS.

SANITARY SEWAGE.

The Maplewood Improvement Association will

consider at its tonight's meeting a proposition to

request Senator Gardner to introduce in the State

Legislature a bill providing for a sewage system in

the growing suburbs of St. Louis. If the proposition

is submitted, as anticipated, the association ought

to approve it by unanimous vote.

Sewage conditions in the eastern part of St. Louis

County are becoming so abominable that they

menace public health, not only throughout a part of

St. Louis, just inside the western city limits, but in

a large section of the county. Until the suburbs be-

gan to grow rapidly they were not affected to any

great extent by sewage evils, as the water fol-

lowed the natural channel into River des Peres and

in the river bed through the city of St. Louis. But

increase in suburban population causes local con-

tamination, with a result that parts of the county

are as unhealthy as parts of the natural drain area.

The regulation of sewage conditions is a matter

which demands immediate attention and expert di-

rection. The administration of the City of St. Louis

has often emphasized the standing menace which

beholden natural causes are to public health. And

now it is encouraging to see residents of the suburbs

come to the same conclusion, and take action.

When the Maplewood Improvement Association

brings the sewage question before the Legislature

residents of the suburbs ought to co-operate with

the St. Louis city administration to get a good and

complete sanitary sewage system. Unless there is

co-operation the sanitary problems will not be set-

tled. As sewers are constructed with attention to

natural drains, it is necessary to have the suburban

sewers joined to the municipal public sewers; for

should the municipal sewers be inadequate, con-

venience in the suburbs would not guarantee sani-

tation.

One of the most obvious points is the over-

capitalization of properties of any kind.

The moral wrong resulting from administering

the water cure too freely to weakling properties

grows in time to proportions wherein not only the

investors but the public generally is harmed.

Many properties are worth more than their actual

value. In the existence of good-will, fran-

chises and the "being established" there are assets

which allow additional stock values to be placed

on corporations. At the same time these assets

are intangible and decidedly short-lived under ad-

verse conditions. It would, therefore, seem ad-

capitalization, it could then operate at less expense

and certainly at less cost to the public.

The necessity for meeting fixed charges makes

many corporations either increase the charges for

their services or increase their capitalization, and

these are equally injurious to the public.

In his move for rate restriction President Roose-

velt is within the Government's constitutional pow-

ers, but he may wreak greater damage than is

caused by high rates.

Prevent railroads from increasing rates under

certain conditions and they will be compelled to

issue more securities to pay their fixed charge, and

this action, if the times continue unpropitious, will

be followed by similar actions until the indebted-

ness increases from a snowball to an avalanche,

eventually crushing many of the unsophisticated in-

vestors.

For these reasons it may be advisable for the

President to go a little slow before he has laws

enacted to restrict rates. He should turn his atten-

tion to laws regarding the capitalization of corpo-

rations; and handle the two evils together as far as

the powers of the national Congress permit him to

secure the necessary legislation.

MUNICIPAL IDEALS IN AMERICA.

New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and St. Louis,

the four leading cities of the United States, simulta-

neously, but independent of any interdependence

whatever, are originating and developing almost

identical schemes for the union of beauty with util-

ity in public work. Improvements finished and

plans for new improvements are so nearly similar in

purpose as to indicate the discovery and acceptance

of definite ideals for orderly betterment.

The prevailing similarity among the schemes does

not contemplate resemblance in the improvements,

inasmuch as each city must impress its own char-

acteristics on structures, grounds and all work, each

having a style peculiar to itself. The improvements,

although recognizing the same general plans and

aiming at the same general effects, will be in

harmony with surroundings, and, consequently, as

different as are the cities. But the adoption of like

comprehensive ideas by the greatest cities of the

country emphasizes appreciation of beauty and sys-

tem in public work.

The four cities appear to have reached the con-

clusion that improvements were better done well,

since they must be done, than done improperly, and

that, when system is observed by adherence to

elaborate plans, the completed work combines

greater utility and economy with embellishment.

All four manifest regard for appearances; all four

consider the arrangement of public buildings in

groups, the construction of extensive parkways,

boulevards and plazas, and the desirability of plan-

ning all improvements in accordance with artistic

taste.

St. Louis already has begun reconstructing King's

Highway as a parkway. The avenue will be a river-

side drive from the Chain of Rocks Park at the

northern city limits to King's Highway proper;

thence, as it swings to 5000 west, connecting Forest

Park and the other recreation places. It will be a

boulevard, with numerous small parks along the

course; at length, on the South Side, as it extends

to the river, it will terminate at a new park. The

course of the boulevard exists, and in the residence

district has been reconstructed. Therefore, St. Louis

will acquire one of the finest and longest boulevards,

connecting all the big parks, for an amount

relatively small.

St. Louis is just as fortunate with conditions for

grouping the public buildings. The property around

the \$2,000,000 City Hall is comparatively unim-

proved. The plan is to condemn about six blocks

of property around the City Hall, and establish on

the site a Municipal Court, extending from the new

\$1,000,000 public library on Locust, Olive, Thirteenth

and Fourteenth streets, southward to the blocks

bounded by Clark avenue, Twelfth and Fifteenth

streets. A bond-issue proposition, to realize the

plan, will be submitted to the voters at the spring

election.

Chicago took preliminary steps last week to con-

nect the North Side and South Side boulevard sys-

tems. The improvement, as proposed, with plazas,

bridges and street widening, will cost about \$5,000,

000. In discussing provisions for the new City

Charter, Chicago gives thought to a new City Hall

and systematic arrangement of public buildings.

Philadelphia, like St. Louis, has a good City Hall;

one of the best, if not the best. The city, as The

Republic said last week, has approved plans for a

new parkway, three-quarters of a mile long and

300 feet wide, from a sixteen-acre plaza through

League Island Park to the League Island Navy

Yard, and for a valley park, two miles long.

New York projects improvements which look to

the expenditure of about \$25,000,000 in ten years.

The plans embrace the grouping of public buildings,

the formation of plazas, the widening of streets,

the improvement of boulevards, and regulation of ap-

pearances along the water front.

The similarity of the schemes is striking. It

shows that the big cities have finally hit upon

practical ideals, and that, having standards for pub-

lic work, they will in time become as beautiful as

the royal capitals of Europe, if not more beautiful.

The schemes are similar because utilities are much

the same. The ideals are identical because the

cities have arrived at a true value of the beautiful

in public work.

FOR INFORMATION.

Mr. Hilton, General Passenger Agent of the

Prisco Railroad Company, suggests that reports

made by the traveling salesmen of St. Louis on

business opportunities in the Southwest be com-

plied and systematized by an Information Bureau,

and then placed in the hands of salesmen traveling

in the North and East. There is much of value in

the idea.

Mr. Hilton has not only hit upon a new plan, but

has suggested one of the most feasible lines for the

effective use of information valuable to St. Louis.

By reason of their profession and training no set

of men are more alive to business possibilities than

the traveling salesmen, and especially are they well

posted on the territory in which they travel.

With the establishment of a new trade or indus-

try in his territory there is for the salesman the

possibility of new customers, more sales to his

credit and a better standing with his firm. Obvi-

ously, he will do his part toward keeping in touch and

reporting upon the business possibilities of his ter-